Mr. Richard Callen
14 E. 60 St.,
New York, N.Y.

2.14.76

Dear Dick,

Today I received a short but nice letter fromDr. Segal. It included two Washington referrals and a request for a follow-up. While the latter is ambiguous, in any interpretation I do appreciate it and I've taken the time for the enclosed. Note that it asks nothing of him. It also tells him, if he has anything he thinks he should or could contribute, how he can without contact with me.

I fear that for months one of my problems has been the GHA decision to pretend there was no negligence. I attribute Dr. Turner's delay in responding to a high policy rather than a medical decision. Flying into the face of the recommendations Dr. Segal made is consistent with this, not the good practise of good medicine. And to tell me that the clots are dissolving when the main vein was totally blocked...

If the future is medically uncertain, I know that when it is possible I'll have to be hospitalized for the artery X-rays. I'm not certain I gave them the correct name. There appears to be no practical way for me to meet these needs except through GHA, which gives every indication of stonewalling. So, I have involved my young lawyer friend, Jim Lesar, who has copies of all the recent correspondence going back at least to the possible pneumonia period of last April, in the event there is this need. He will be limited in what he can do and I know no medic-legal expert in the DC area. I also have no way of paying him, which means other problems that I'll have to find some way of meeting once I know with whom Jim can consult.

Uneasy as I feel I am able to keep working. There are other interruptions, like the time required by a Playboy consultancy. But I've completed the draft of the fourth chapter and have begun the fifth. I've gone as far in it as I can without reading. The five-hour typist is down with the flu so the first chapter is not yet retyped. Two more chapters, the first of which will take some time, and Part II is drafted. Not after the third chapter read, ~~he~~ though.

While I do not expect it to happen, as early as some time this coming week I'll have more "new evidence." I assure you that with no more I have the sensational. I also expect a tough court fight from Wednesday's indications. The government asked for a protective order against our interrogatories. They were rejected and given 30 days to comply. They are so crooked they didn't even inform the U.S.Attorney that while they've told him to move mootness they simultaneously told me the cost of the initial new search would be not less that $325, asked and got an $80 deposit. I've never known Jim to lose his cool and he's had the most extreme provocation when I was with him. But when he was told the government's plan the night before the hearing - had not even been given a copy of the motion they've had weeks to file - he exploded and warned them that if they follow the indicated course he will personally demand charges against the lawyers doing it. If this does not give them pause I told the assistant personally after Wednesday's short hearing that I was making him witting and that while with compliance I would move to dismiss without full compliance I will specify what is being withheld, who has to know, and prove it to the judge who will have been imposed upon. Or, we are squaring off for what can be a real fight because what I've asked for if delivered will blow the case apart.

This is more than an update. It is to explain the structure, which I believe is not only logical but permits delay in the writing of the new-evidence part until the last possible minute.

These kinds of problems cause no sweat. The medical situation does disturb and my tensions have increased because of the need to quit smoking. I again made an immediate, drastic reduction, as I had before Turner's call. Perhaps as much as 5/6ths. I've also reduced my food intake to less than you observed but see no serious weight loss. Anyway, on the book I'm moving forward. Best,